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BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1966

BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: Councillor J. Wainwright C.B.E. J.P.
VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: Councillor J. A. Brown J.P.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor W. Alker.
Councillor W. Cowley.
Councillor W. Derbyshire.
Councillor G. Fairhurst.
Councillor J. G. Forshaw.
Councillor F. Garner.
Councillor T. Gibson.
Councillor L. Grime.
Councillor J. Hall.
Councillor K. Middlehurst.
Councillor J. O'Malley.
Councillor C. D. Saunders.
Councillor J. M. Wellens.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL - Mr. E. Sharples.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor W. Derbyshire.
Vice-Chairman: Councillor G. Fairhurst.
Medical Officer of Health: Dr. R. Schofield M.D. C.H.B. D.C.H. D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector: Mr. J. R. Swift.

BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,

BILLINGE,

Near Wigan.

To the Chairman and Members,
Billinge-and-Winstanley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure of submitting to you the Annual Report for the health of the District for the year 1966, compiled in the form indicated by the Ministry of Health.

I take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks to the Officials of the Council, the Staff of the Public Health Department, and especially to the Public Health Inspector, for valuable help and co-operation at all times.

I desire to express also to the Members of the Council my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they have always displayed towards me.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

R. Schofield,

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA

Area in acres	4596
Number of inhabited houses at end of the year according to the rate book	3317
Rateable value	£263317
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1046
Registrat General's estimate of the resident population mid-1966	9360

Billinge is a pleasant residential village, situated mid-way between the County Boroughs of Wigan and St. Helens, and is conveniently situated to the M6 Motorway.

Residential development continues to rise rapidly and this is likely to continue, for some future years.

The chief industries in the area, most of which are long standing, are agriculture, stone quarrying, brick and terra cotta manufacture and some coal mining. There is a large General Hospital, at present being further enlarged, and which employs a considerable amount of local female labour.

VITAL STATISTICS

		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Live Births	Legitimate	228	120	108
	Illegitimate	3	-	3
		231	120	111
Still Births	Legitimate	2	-	2
	Illegitimate	1	-	1
		3	-	3
Deaths of Infants (Legitimate)	Under one week of age	3	3	-
	Under four weeks of age	3	3	-
	Under one year of age	3	3	-
	Total	3	3	-

Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated population mid-1966 - 24.7 (crude)
20.7 (adj.)

Death rate per 1000 of the estimated population mid-1966 - 12.4 (crude)
12.0 (adj.)

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

IN RESPECT OF THE YEARS 1965 - 1966

Year	Live Births No.		Deaths (all causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-Natal	
	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 popn. Crude Rate	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 popn.	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 total Births.	No. of Deaths Reg.	Rate per 1,000 total Births.	No. of Deaths Registered.	Rate per 1,000 live-births.	No. of Deaths Registered.	Rate per 1,000 live birth
1965	265	29.6	123	13.7 crude 14.9 adj.	4	14.9	Nil	Nil	6	22.6	5	18.9
1966	234	24.7	116	12.4 crude 12.0 adj.	3	12.8	Nil	Nil	3	12.8	3	12.8

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA

Ambulance Station

The Ambulance Station is situated in the Higher End of the District and serves this District and part of an adjoining authority of Up Holland. The service has been found to be very efficient and satisfactory.

Home Nursing

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, home nursing facilities are provided by the Lancashire County Council.

HOSPITALS AND OTHER FACILITIES AVAILABLE WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Hospitals

Billinge Hospital is situated in the northern end of the District. The Hospital has been greatly enlarged during the year. A new maternity block having been erected and new kitchens and canteen.

Facilities at the hospital are available for general medical treatment, and nervous disorders there being a modern psychiatric unit.

Hospitals are available at Manchester or Liverpool for special cases and infectious cases requiring isolation are usually cared for at Whelley.

Maternity and Child Welfare

An Ante-Natal clinic is available at Billinge and work on the new clinic at Rainford Road was completed at the end of the year.

There has been a steady increase in the population.

Laboratory Facilities

Specimens, samples etc. are forwarded to the following laboratories for examination:-

Wigan Infirmary	-	Pathological and bacteriological specimens.
Liverpool City Laboratories	-	Bacteriological specimens.
Liverpool City Laboratories	-	Chemical Analysis.

In the next table are shown the chief causes of death and the number of deaths from each cause in 1966, with comparative figures for 1965:-

	Number of Deaths			
	-1965-		-1966-	
	M	F	M	F
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis - Other	-	-	-	-
Cancer	6	10	4	4
Leukaemia	2	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	18	13	8	19
Coronary Disease, Angina	14	11	13	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	-	-	-
Other Heart Disease	10	3	4	8
Other Circulatory Disease	4	1	2	5
Pneumonia	2	3	5	1
Bronchitis	1	1	4	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	1	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	1	-
Nephritis, Nephrosis	1	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	1	-
Congenital Malformation	2	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-defined diseases	7	9	15	4
All other accidents	-	1	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	2	-
Suicide	-	-	-	1
Other malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	-	-	-	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	1
	70	53	62	54

TABLE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Disease	Total cases all ages	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	25 & over	Age Un-known	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	4	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis-											
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles - excluding rubella	21	1	2	5	1	2	10	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Disease	Total cases all ages	0-	5-	15-	45-	65 & over	Ages Un-Known	Total Deaths
Acute pneumonia (prim. & infl zal)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis - Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or typhoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	3	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
Meninges and C.N.S.	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other notifiable diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
						Total		Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

The County Council are responsible for the prevention and aftercare of Tuberculosis. Diagnosis and treatment is carried out by the Specialist Chest Physician of the Regional Hospital Board and by the General Practitioners.

All cases of tuberculosis from the Billinge-and-Winstanley Urban District attend the Chest Clinic, Millgate, Wigan.

There were no local deaths during the year caused by tuberculosis.

Four new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with one new case of the previous year.

DISINFECTION AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The method employed with regard to premises is fumigation with formaldhyde gas. Formities are disinfected in the autoclove by steam.

There was no occasion for disinfection to be carried out during the year.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Children Protected Against:-	PRIMARY		RE-INFORCEMENT	
	0-4	5-15	0-4	5-15
Diphtheria	221	6	4	202
Diphtheria	221	4	4	2
Whooping Cough	221	6	4	197
Tetanus	257	9	10	160
Poliomyelitis				
Smallpox Vaccination.	PRIMARY		RE-VACCINATION	
	0-4	5-15	0-4	5-15
	149	16	-	19

WATER

The statutory water Undertakers for this area is the St. Helens Joint Water Board and the supply for the District is from several sources.

The water passes through a softening plant and is of good quality. No complaints have been received during the year regarding the quality of the water.

The Main parts of the District are supplied direct from Rivington. There is in the District a storage reservoir which is in use from time to time. The extreme Northern end of the District the Gantley Road area and Winstanley receive a supply from the Makerfield Water Board. This water is mainly Thirlmere Water which is an upland surface water.

Many complaints were received during the year of an unpleasant taste in the water received from Rivington. On analysis this was found to be due to a small quantity of phenols in the water. The matter was referred to the Statutory Water Undertakers and also to the Liverpool Corporation Water Department, and the Makerfield Water Board.

The construction of a reservoir commenced at Crank during the year and this will receive water from Rivington and Melling and will allow for three days storage. The completion of which together with provision of new distribution pipes will result in an improved supply.

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE

Main drainage is provided for the whole of the District with the exception of the Hamlet of Kings Moss and some isolated areas.

The Council have two sewage Works:-

a) The Chapel End Works built in 1957, which serves the Southern area of Billinge known as the Chapel End Area

and

b) The Higher End Sewage Works serving the northern area of the District.

Part of Pemberton Road discharges into the Wigan Corporation Sewer.

SEWERAGE SCHEME

The scheme prepared by the Consultants for the extension of the sewage works and the provision of new sewers at the Chapel End has been submitted to the Ministry and it is hoped that work will commence during the ensuing year as it is urgently required.

Periodic flooding occurred both at the Higher End and Chapel End of the District during the storms.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

No complaints were received of polluted water-courses, ditches etc. during the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION (At end of 1966)

No. of privy middens	32
No. of closets attached to these middens	36
No. of Pail Closets	4
No. of Dry Ashpits	Nil
No. of Moveable Dustbins	3490
No. of fresh water closets	3480
No. of dwellings on water carriage system	3335

PUBLIC CLEANSING

We now have two refuse collection vehicles. One eighteen cubic yard Dual Tip Karrier which is approximately six years old and is found to be very satisfactory for the normal collection and for the conveyance of bulky unwanted articles, and a second vehicle - a Dennis Paxit Compression Vehicle which was purchased in February, 1966. This allows for the greater compaction of refuse in the vehicle than in the Karrier and it is found to be very economical especially where the length of haulage is great.

A total of twelve men including the drivers and the charge-hand are employed on refuse collection. The charge-hand also supervises work on the tip.

A weekly collection was maintained apart from the odd lapse due to holidays and sickness. It was necessary for the men to work overtime to provide the weekly service.

TRADE REFUSE

The amount of trade refuse being removed from shops within the District was increasing considerably and it was necessary to consider making a charge for this service. Commencing 1st June, 1966, the Council instituted a charge for the removal of all trade refuse. This system has worked very well and in return the shop-keepers have been given a weekly collection and twice weekly where it has been considered necessary.

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

Disposal of refuse is by Controlled Tipping in a dusused quarry which the Council have on lease from a local farmer. The tip is levelled each night by a local contractor.

Difficulty arose during the year by trespassers who were removing material from the tip and disturbing the refuse.

In the summer months and at holiday times fires were started in and around the tip by unauthorized persons.

The Council have now purchased a large disused quarry which will provide adequate tipping facilities for over thirty years.

Negotiations are going on regarding the application of Orrell U.D.C. to use this tip for a temporary period.

Considerable indiscriminate dumping of various unwanted articles, garden refuse etc. takes place in several of the Country Lanes and lay-byes. To overcome this the Council have adopted a free collection and disposal service for all unwanted household articles and also take small quantities of garden refuse where it is not possible to dispose of same by composting.

Unfortunately the nuisance of unauthorized tipping continues and the Council's workmen are continually cleaning up the small rubbish tips. Many of the offenders must come from outside the District.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

There are still a number of septic tanks within the District. Apart from Kings Moss they are the isolated farms and dwellings not within reasonable distance of the public sewer.

The Council do not have a cesspool emptier. The periodic emptying of Septic Tanks is carried out by a local farmer. The Council are considering the purchase of a suitable tanker which could also be used for the emptying and cleansing of street gullies and for use at the Sewage Works.

The Council are also considering providing main drainage for Kings Moss and a scheme is being prepared by the Council's consultants.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public Conveniences for both sexes are situated in Main Street. They are of very old design and there is considerable damage caused by vandalism. No washing facilities are provided with these conveniences, and none are likely to be provided as a new toilet block is required.

There is a modern toilet block situated in the Higher End of the District in Up Holland Road. These are situated within the Hospital curtilage. and are well-maintained and have wash-basins. Whilst the conveniences are for the use of the visitors to the hospital they are available for the General Public.

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

There are no Public swimming pools within the District and there are none provided at any of the schools.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are none within the District.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none within the District.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are three ladies hairdressing establishments within the District. These are of good construction, properly equipped and well-maintained.

There are no men's hairdressing establishments within the District.

CANAL BOATS

There are none within the District.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Nil.

CLEAN AIR

Three complaints were received during the year and investigated. No formal action was necessary.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

This Act enables Local Authorities to require the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for employees on farms etc.

There are forty-six farms within the District. Sixteen farms were inspected during the year. Contraventions were observed in respect of three farms due to unsatisfactory conveniences.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING SITES

There are no caravans permanently occupied within the District. No licences were issued under the Caravan Sites and Controlled Development Act 1960.

There is one Camping Site situated at Bispham Hall which is used by the Boy Scouts. Two inspections were made of this site in the year and the camp was found to be well-maintained and kept tidy. Improved toilet facilities were provided at this camping site during the year.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

There were no complaints received during the year of pollution from any industrial chimneys.

Complaints were received of the burning of refuse at the Council's Refuse Tip. This was caused by the tip being deliberately lighted by trespassers.

Eight observations of the Factory Chimneys were made during the year and no contraventions were observed.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

This Act provides for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in Offices, Shops and Railway Premises.

It requires the registration of premises where persons are employed. The number of registered premises at the end of the year was 7 offices and 14 retail shops.

Thirteen premises were fully inspected during the year and a total of thirty-four visits were made.

The standard of lighting provided in shops generally was well below the standard recommended by the Illuminating Society. Until a minimum legal standard has been prescribed only advise can be given to the owners to improve and provide a more suitable lighting.

There is a need for the desire to have a higher lighting standard and a need for some specific standard to be prescribed by the Ministry. Minor contravensions were observed in the majority of the premises. These generally complied with.

FACTORIES AND WORK PLACES

INSPECTIONS MADE UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT 1937 - 1961

Premises		No. on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
1.	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	Nil	Nil
2.	Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	11	10	3
3.	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	8	10	3
	Total	21	20	6

No prosecutions were instituted under the Act.

SCHOOLS

There are four schools within the District each of which is provided with mains, water supply, water toilets connected to the Public Sewers, wash-basins and with the exception of one hot and cold water to wash-basins.

MILK SUPPLY

Under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, all persons carrying on the trade of distributor from premises within the District and all premises used as dairies, other than dairy-farms are registered with the Council. Dairy farms and dairy farmers are registered with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Number of Distributors registered by the Local Authority and operating from:-

1) Dairies within the District - 4.
2) Shops within the District other than dairies - 6.

MILK (Special Designation) REGULATIONS 1960:-

These regulations require all dealers other than producers to hold a licence from the Lancashire County Council who are the Food and Drugs Authority.

Eight samples of pasteurized milk were taken by the Public Health Inspector and submitted to the Bacteriologist for the Metylene Blue Reduction Test and also the Phosphatese test and two samples of sterelized milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for the turbidity test. All samples were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

The Lancashire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District.

Regular samples of food and drugs are taken by the County Council Sampling Officer for chemical analysis, to ensure that they are genuine and unadulterated.

No prosecutions were made during the year.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Food Premises

Number of premises and types within the District:-	
General Grocers	22
Fishmongers	1
Bakers and Confectioners	-
Fish Shop	1
Sweets and Minerals	4
Ice Cream Factories	1
Shops selling ice-cream	13
Butchers	3
Licenced premises, clubs, canteens and cafes etc.	21

Systematic inspections were made of all premises during the year to ensure that the Food Hygiene Regulations were complied with.

There was a big improvement in the general condition and in the modernisation of some of the older premises.

A standard of personal hygiene was found to be generally good and all shops are provided with the necessary washing facilities.

Regular inspections of all premises is essential. In the larger shops there is continual changing in the staff, changing circumstances and increased business.

There is still a tendency for open food to be exposed on counters where it is easily contaminated by customers and staff breathing over it. Some of the small general shops are generally overcrowded and in need of renovation.

PUBLIC HOUSES

Three Public Houses have been modernized during the year. New kitchens are being provided at the Hospital and three shops have had major improvements and extensions. In addition a bake-house has been closed during the year.

Minor contraventions are dealt with by verbal warning to the occupier or manager of the premises concerned.

In the cases of more serious contraventions written notices are always sent.

Seventeen informal notices were served during the year.

ICE CREAM

One ice-cream factory is situated within the District and is appropriately registered.

This is kept in good condition. Six ice-cream samples were taken during the year and submitted to the analyst for the metylene blue grading test. All were found to be satisfactory.

There are thirteen shops registered for the storage/sale of ice-cream within the District. With the exception of the mobile vendors only wrapped ice-cream is sold.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are no slaughterhouses within the District. There are only three butchers shops and there are several itinerant meat vendors from outside the District selling meat within the District.

There is one farm which sells ready dressed poultry and this is only periodical mainly at the holiday seasons. These premises were inspected during the Christmas season and there is no doubt that there is need for more frequent inspection where poultry is killed and dressed.

No food stuffs were found unfit for human consumption and surrendered to and disposed of by the Council.

RODENT CONTROL

One part-time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council. All farms and business premises are inspected each year. The Council carry out a free disinfestation service for the destruction of all rodents at all private houses. For business premises a nominal charge only is made for each treatment, whilst for farms a Rodent Control Contract service is also operating.

For a nominal charge of £8 per year the Council carry out a minimum of four treatments per year on all agricultural holdings. So far only twelve farmers have made use of the service. The farms generally are purchasing warfarin themselves either privately or from the Council and carrying out their own treatments.

MOLES

During the year there were four complaints of moles reported in the gardens of private houses. Advise is freely given to the occupiers on the destruction of moles by trapping and traps are lent free of charge.

For the nominal sum of £1 treatment is carried out for the destruction of moles by the Council.

In the cases of agricultural land these are reported to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

DISINFESTATION

Free disinfestation of cockroaches, ants and other insects is carried out at Council houses. In the case of private houses a small nominal charge is made for any treatment carried out.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Number of new houses erected during the year.

	Houses	Flats
(i) By local Authority	26	Nil
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil	Nil
(iii) By private development	201	Nil

2. Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year

1. (a) Total No. of Dwelling-houses inspected informally and formally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	217
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose.	509
(c) Number of dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.	40
2. Total number of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable expense:	
(a) Upon which Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made.	30
(b) Upon which Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not been made.	24

3. Houses Demolished

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas			
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	1	1
(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	Nil	-	-
(iii) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2), Housing Act 1947.	Nil	-	-
NOT in Clearance Areas			
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act 1957.	6	18	4
(v) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.	Nil	-	-
(vi) Unfit houses for human habitation where action has been taken under local acts.	Nil	-	-
(vii) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders.	Nil	-	-
4.			
Unfit houses Closed			
(i) Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1), and 35 (1), Housing Act 1957.	4	13	5
(ii) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 of the Housing Act, 1957.	Nil	-	-
(iii) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.	Nil	Nil	Nil

5. Unfit Houses Made Fit.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(i) After informal action by Local Authority	37	Nil
(ii) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	11	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16 of the Housing Act 1957.	Nil	Nil
(iii) Under Section 24 of the Housing Act 1957.	Nil	Nil

6. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act 1957).

	Number of houses	Number of separate dwellings contained in Columns (1)
	(1)	(2)
Position at end of year:		
(i) Retained for temporary accommodation -		
(a) Under Section 48	Nil	Nil
(b) Under Section 17 (2)	Nil	Nil
(c) Under Section 46	Nil	Nil
(ii) Licenced for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53.	Nil	Nil

7. Purchase of Houses by Agreement

	Number of houses.	Number of occupants of houses in Column (1).
	(1)	(2)
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year.	Nil	Nil

8. Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

Preliminary discussions have taken place with a view to the Council considering the granting of Discretionary Grants.

If these were to be given it is felt that there would be a far greater response all round for the improvement and preservation of houses.

9. House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 - Standard Grants: and Housing Acts 1961 and 1964

		Number of dwellings or other buildings affected.
(i)	Applications submitted to Local Authority for improvement to full standard.	17
(ii)	Applications approved by local Authority for improvement to reduced standard.	Nil
(iii)	Total applications approved by Local Authority.	13
(iv)	Work completed.	12
(v)	No action be taken to secure compulsory improvement of dwelling. A survey is necessary before any action can be taken	Nil

The number of applications is again disappointing. A full survey is being made of all houses in the District to ascertain what houses are without the very essential amenities of bath, washbasin, hot and cold water supply to basin and bath, food larder and internal water toilet.

Under the Act tenants can compulsorily require landlords to provide facilities and the Council can designate improvement areas and require these amenities to be provided. Unfortunately the procedure for such an improvement area is very drawn out and no action is contemplated by the Council for at least some time yet.

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 1966

These Regulations were laid before Parliament on 7th July, 1966, and they come into force on 1st January, 1967.

The Regulations apply to food stalls, mobile vehicles and delivery vehicles. They are a much needed Regulation in that they raise the standard of hygiene, construction and equipment. In addition to the provision of washing facilities, sinks also are required in the case of certain types of business where they are considered necessary.

The standard required is more in line with the standard required for food premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

(FOOD HAWKERS)

There is an increase in the number of Food Hawkers, mobile vendors etc. entering the District and the standard generally is poor. It will be some while before the regulations will be fully complied with.

J. R. SWIFT,

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.